

P24133.A02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Yoshihiro NOGUCHI et al.

Group Art Unit:

Serial No : 10/696,029

Filed : October 30, 2003

For : DATA COMMUNICATIONS APPARATUS AND DATA
COMMUNICATIONS METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby call the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 11-088533 to KOKUSAI ELECTRIC CO. LTD. and KUNII HIROOMI, published March 30, 1999 and which is cited at page 1 of the specification.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and cite the above document. A copy of the above-noted document, as well as an English language abstract, is attached, and has been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-

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1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of the document.

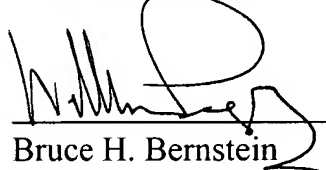
Applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the following copending, commonly assigned U.S. Patent applications:

U.S. Patent Application No.10/695,943 to NOGUCHI et al., filed October 30, 2003 and entitled "Data Communication Apparatus and Data Communication Method".

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(iii), a copy of the above-noted U.S. Patent application, as filed, is attached hereto. However, the examiner is also requested to review the file of the above noted application, and the references, if any, of record therein.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Yoshihiro NOGUCHI et al.


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December 30, 2003
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